

REPORTS CONCERNING INDIANS IN UTAH.

REPORT OF AGENT FOR UINTA AND OURAY AGENCY.

UINTA AND OURAY AGENCY,
Whiterocks, Utah, July 25, 1903.

SIR: I have the honor to submit my first annual report for the Uinta and Ouray Agency, Utah.

Location.—This is a consolidated agency, with headquarters at Whiterocks, Utah. The Ouray subagency is situated 35 miles to the southeast. There are two schools: The Uinta School, located at Whiterocks, and the Ouray School, about 20 miles below here and 15 miles above Ouray subagency. The military post of Fort Duchesne is located near the center of the combined reservations.

Census.—The population shown by the census just completed is as follows:

Uinta Utes, Uinta Agency:	
Males over 18 years	154
Females over 14 years	134
Males under 18 years	93
Females under 14 years	71
	— 452
Between 6 and 16—males, 44; females, 34	78
	=====
White River Utes, Uinta Agency:	
Males over 18 years	121
Females over 14 years	99
Males under 18 years	73
Females under 14 years	63
	— 356
Between 6 and 16—males, 42; females, 39	81
	=====
Uncompahgre Utes, Ouray Agency:	
Males over 18 years	255
Females over 14 years	257
Males under 18 years	80
Females under 14 years	72
	— 664
Between 6 and 16—males, 50; females, 56	106

Progress.—These Indians show a favorable disposition to work and are always willing to accept employment at anything offered. A large number have been employed during the past spring months in repairing roads, cleaning and repairing ditches, rebuilding dams, gates, and performing other work necessary to insure an effective supply of water for irrigation during the summer. They were encouraged

in this by the inauguration of weekly payments, by which means they were enabled to purchase subsistence during the time they were at work.

They dispose of wood, coal, and farm products in the local market, especially at Fort Duchesne. I have just submitted proposals to the War Department for the Indians to supply this post as follows for the coming year:

Wood	cords..	1, 600
Hay, loose	pounds..	500, 000
Hay, baled	do....	100, 000
Oats	do....	170, 000
Coal	do....	300, 000

In addition to this they will supply both agencies and schools with hay, oats, wood, and coal, all that is needed.

Rations and wages.—Upon recommendation of the agent last year 25 per cent of the beef and flour contract was cut off, and the money so saved was used as wages for labor on roads, ditches, etc. This year an additional 25 per cent reduction in Uinta Agency supplies has been recommended.

Schools.—The schools have progressed and have greatly improved in the matter of attendance during the past year, both having more than double the enrollment and attendance of the year before. The unsubdued attitude of the Utes and the inefficiency of the Indian police at this agency render this one of the hardest of all reservations for getting children into school, and allowance should be made for this in comparing attendance at these schools with attendance where police service and other conditions are favorable to full attendance at school.

Liquor traffic.—Considerable trouble is experienced on account of saloons located on the "Strip," a portion of the reservation which has been cut off and leased to a mining company. Freighters and others passing through from the railroad to the white settlements on the other side of the reservation smuggle liquor in small bottles and sell it to the Indians. Owing to the unwillingness of the Indians to testify it is practically impossible to obtain evidence enough to secure conviction for such violations of the law. Two Indians have died as a result of this illegal traffic during the present summer. One was shot in a drunken brawl, and the other died from an overdose of the vile concoction which was sold him under the name of whisky.

In conclusion, I most heartily thank your office for all kindness with which I have been favored.

Very respectfully,

W. A. MERCER,

Captain, Seventh Cavalry, Acting United States Indian Agent.

THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF UINTA SCHOOL.

UINTA BOARDING SCHOOL,
Whiterocks, Utah, July 27, 1903.

SIR: Herewith I have the honor to submit the report of the Uinta Boarding School for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1903.

The enrollment for the year reached 106, with an average attendance of 87. Five boys were transferred to the Carlisle Industrial School.

The health of the pupils has been good, although there was some serious sickness, one case proving fatal.

Although the spring was unusually late, a reasonably good garden was raised. About 20 tons of ice was put up.

In the sewing room many articles have been manufactured and a number of girls taught household sewing. The laundry was done by boys and girls, a number of whom were taught family washing. In the kitchen the girls were taught family cooking, as well as assisting in the cooking for the school.

The schoolroom work was good and the progress made by the pupils encouraging.

Sunday school and chapel exercises were continued throughout the year. In these services we had the assistance of the missionaries, Reverend Hersey speaking to the pupils once each month and Misses Carter and Murray each Sunday.

While we have an abundance of excellent water furnished by mountain streams, we have no water system, but one is very much needed.

The buildings are lighted by the ordinary kerosene lamps, which are not satisfactory, aside from the danger attributed to them.

All the rooms in the buildings have been kalsomined, and the inside woodwork painted. The employees' and boys' buildings were also painted outside. All the board and picket fences received a coat of whitewash in the month of April.

Notwithstanding numerous changes the employees worked harmoniously, and to that cause we attribute the success of the work. Dr. H. B. Lloyd, while in charge, began the work of filling the school with pupils. Inspector J. E. Jenkins also did much in filling the school, while he was here making some payments to the Indians.

Supervising Engineer Robert M. Pringle was here and made a survey for a complete system of waterworks. Supervisor Edwin L. Chalcraft made us a visit and gave us much assistance by his

instructions and experience. Inspector James McLaughlin gave us a short call while here in regard to some treaties with the Indians.

Thanking you for the cordial support and cooperation I have received during the year, I am,

Respectfully,

WILLIAM W. EWING, *Superintendent.*

Capt. W. A. MERCER,
United States Indian Agent.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF OURAY SCHOOL,

OURAY SCHOOL, *Leland, Utah, July 25, 1903.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the report of the Ouray School for the fiscal year 1903.

Attendance.—The subject of attendance at this school has always been a vexatious problem. This is partly due to the fact that the pupils are scattered over a wide expanse of territory, and many of the children are practically out of reach, being located far from the school in an almost inaccessible region where it is of little use to send details of employees to find and bring them in. Further, the scholastic population estimated for this school has been erroneous and exaggerated, as proved by statistics submitted recently, showing that the number of children eligible for attendance at this school amounts to only 76, of whom 69 were in attendance this year. The average attendance was nearly double that of 1902, and would have been considerably greater, but for the difficulty of securing pupils. Under present conditions it is impossible to get many of the pupils until midwinter, when the Indians come in to Ouray Agency for their annuity payment; it is only on this occasion that the Indians, living 60 miles away near the Colorado line, come to the agency.

Schoolroom work.—The schoolroom work has been very well conducted during the year, and the pupils have made good progress.

Industrial.—The industrial work consists only of the regular routine of supplying water and fuel, the spring and fall work in the garden and fields, and taking care of the stock.

Religious instruction.—This school is very happily situated for the religious progress of the pupils. A church built under the auspices of the Episcopal Mission Board, is located on the grounds, and the work is ably and faithfully carried on by Rev. M. J. Hersey and wife. Two services are held each Sunday, one in the morning at the church and the other in the evening at the school.

Employees.—The employees have proved themselves efficient, faithful, and well disposed, and have worked together in harmony and perfect good will.

Transfers.—No transfers of pupils from this school have been made this year or for several years past. The strong opposition to allowing children to attend school on the part of the Uncompahgres renders it impracticable to attempt to send children away to school.

Health.—Considerable sickness prevailed among the pupils during the winter months, and six died. This can not be traced to any unsanitary conditions of the school plant, unless it be the unclean water of the Uinta River which it is necessary to use during that season of the year.

In conclusion, I most sincerely thank you for all favors granted and courtesies extended.

Very respectfully,

JOHN F. MACKEY, *Superintendent.*

Capt. W. A. MERCER,
Seventh Cavalry, U. S. Army, Acting United States Indian Agent.